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A PHONE box library threatened with closure has been saved, after a deal between Banbury Town Council and BT.

South Bar Street will have not one, but two kiosks. BT will supply a new one, with shelving and books to borrow, and the existing one will remain with a phone.

Council leader Kieron Mallon said: "Having a community library and a working phone in South Bar will be the best of both worlds."

The library was set up last summer, anonymously, but, after a user complained, BT ordered the removal of books for safety reasons.

Kieron Mallon enjoys a nice read inside the existing box

Another centre opens to meet growing need for free rations

FOODBANKS GO FOURTH

Hannah Somerville
hsomerville@nqo.com

EMERGENCY food parcels are now available in the town five days a week, as latest figures reveal almost 2,000 Banbury people need foodbanks over a year.

National foodbank charity the Trussell Trust has launched its fourth distribution centre in Banbury, at St Joseph's Church, Bretch Hill.

It is open on Monday mornings, meaning emergency food provision is now available in the town five days a week.

People referred to the foodbank by frontline care professionals including doctors, social workers and community workers will be able to receive emergency food to cover three days' meals.

Sue Allen, volunteer supervisor at St Joseph's Church, said: "We are excited to be helping meet the growing need in this part of town."

The Peoples Church, Horse Fair, runs a foodbank on Tuesdays and Fridays. The West Street Methodist Church, Grimsbury, holds one on Wednesdays and a foodbank is held at St Francis Church Highlands, Hardwick, on Thursdays.

Banbury Foodbank project manager David Stapleton said: "The current economic climate means more and more people are struggling to put food on the table, so we really need local people to give what they can to help. It's not just people on low incomes who are feeling the pinch – increased redundancy and fewer jobs are having a real impact."

The number of people using foodbanks in Banbury has climbed steeply since the first centre was set up in late 2011.

In the 2011/12 financial year, 199 people received three days' worth of food but in 2013/14, some 1,776 people – 1,019 adults and 757 children – were helped.

Mr Stapleton explained: "In initial years it was all to do with awareness. People learned the foodbank was there and how to access it."

John Donaldson is Cherwell District Council's lead member for the 'Banbury Brighter Futures' project, which aims to ensure young people have opportunities to build a secure future.

He said he was not surprised by the opening of a new branch, due to an improved referral network, and people becoming increasingly aware of the foodbank's existence.

Mr Donaldson, who is also a town councillor, added: "The Trussell Trust does a fantastic job, and the more outlets it can open, the better."

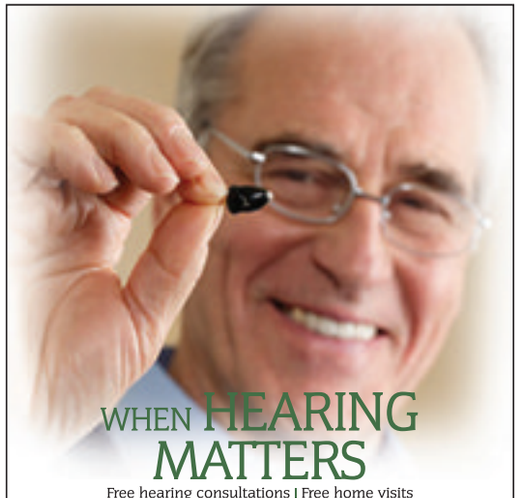
About 40 volunteers worki at Trussell Trust's foodbank centres across Banbury, with between five and 10 manning each site during its opening hours.

Diane Johnson, town councillor for Neithrop South, said: "I applaud the service but regret its necessity, the judgment of success is when it's not needed."

You cannot simply turn up to a foodbank for free supplies but must have a voucher from one of the recognised care professionals.

Foodbank supplies come mainly from individual donations, supported by collections from businesses, schools, churches and supermarket shoppers.

For information and to donate funds or food, or become a volunteer, visit banbury.foodbank.org.uk/get-involved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Although we strive to avoid errors, some may slip through the net. If you find an error of fact, please write to the Editor, Simon O'Neill at Newspaper House, Osney Mead, Oxford OX2 0EJ, or telephone him on 01865 425450. It is our policy to correct mistakes where it is appropriate.

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Sibford School Year 11 pupils Amy Boote, Megan Penney, Hannah Gardiner and Bethan Robinson look skywards during Friday's solar eclipse

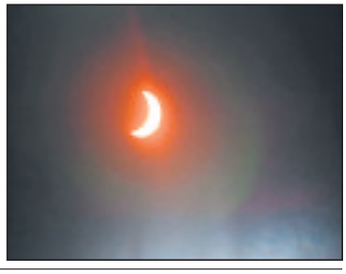
Eyes on the sky as students don eyewear to study spectacular rare solar eclipse

SIBFORD School pupils donned protective glasses and made for the school field to watch Friday's solar eclipse.

The rare event, which occurred at about 9.30am, is caused when the moon passes between the sun and Earth, temporarily blotting the sun out. With fingers crossed for good weather people across Oxfordshire turned out in force to watch using special eyewear and pinhole cameras. The Sibford youngsters kept their eyes on the skies and also had solar scopes and a telescope fitted with a solar filter.

Year 11 pupil Megan Penney said: "It was really cool. It was great to see the optimum coverage and although it clouded over a bit you could still see it."

Classmate Bethan Robinson added: "When we came outside the atmosphere was really eerie."



MP praises the Budget in final speech to House

Sir Tony hails church repair funding and says he will become patron of hospice

Hannah Somerville
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SIR Tony Baldry has given his final speech in the House of Commons.

The Conservative politician will be stepping down ahead of the May General Election after 32 years as MP for Banbury. His last address to the Commons formed part of a debate on the Budget, announced by Chancellor George Osborne last Wednesday.

In his speech he thanked the Chancellor for the £40m made available for church roof repairs and said: "For many people the presence of a church in their community is symbolic of the nation and a source of support and comfort even for those who are not regular church-goers."

He then gave thanks for the £1m to be put towards celebrating the 600th anniversary of the Battle of Agincourt.

During the speech, Sir Tony also announced that after standing down he would become a patron of Katharine House Hospice, Adderbury. The hospice opened shortly after he was first elected to Parliament.

Sir Tony Baldry gives his final speech in the House of Commons

He said: "In last year's Autumn Statement the Chancellor completely removed the VAT burden on hospices so that they are now in exactly the same position, so far as VAT is concerned, as NHS hospitals – a move which I thought was somewhat overlooked by the national media.

"That made an enormous difference to our nation's hospices, all of which are largely supported by voluntary contributions."

Sir Tony also welcomed plans to introduce a Help-to-Buy ISA, which he said would be particularly useful for first-time buyers in his constituency.

He also described plans to increase the personal allowance to £10,800 next year and £11,000 the year after as "a very popular policy".

Finally he said: "This will almost certainly be my last speech in the House of Commons. I am glad that I am able to make it in support of the Chancellor's Budget. In 47 days the nation will go to the polls.

"The nation will have a straightforward choice as to whom they wish and whom they trust to be Prime Minister."

Puppies come out to play together at creche

Furry friends socialise at Dogs for the Disabled as they begin their journeys to becoming assistance dogs

Newton, one of the puppies in the creche at Dogs for the Disabled in Banbury, gets to play in a tunnel

Blair Lindsay, one of the team of volunteer socialisers, with Newton

Luke Sproule
lsproule@nqo.com

A FRESH consignment of puppies came out to play with their peers at Dogs for the Disabled's Banbury HQ.

The puppies, all of them aged 12 or 16 weeks old, were brought to the Puppy Crèche to meet each other and socialise ahead of their first classes at the centre.

They are looked after by volunteers for the first year of their lives, after which they will begin training as assistance dogs, transforming the lives of adults and children with disabilities, and children with autism.

Volunteer socialisers Blair and Rachel Locklin, of Kennington Road, Oxford, came along with their fostered golden Labrador Newton.

Mr Locklin said: "Rachel saw videos of the impact assistance dogs have on the lives of disabled people. Puppy socialising seemed a great way of being helpful and finding out how we would get on with a puppy for a year. I think I'm going to be the most unpopular dad in the world when we give Newton back."

The puppies come from a variety of sources including donors and professional breeders.

Dog supply manager Chris Allen said: "We're really pleased with the puppies. They've had great fun in the Puppy Crèche, some of them meeting and playing with their brothers and sisters as well as other pups.

"They've clearly made a good start on listening to their socialisers and learning obedience, and they're already displaying great confidence."

To find out more about puppy socialising, visit dogsforthedisabled.org/volunteer/puppy-socialiser/

Code-breaking display

BANBURY: Second World War documents named after the town of Banbury have have gone on show at Bletchley Park, Buckinghamshire, for the first time.

The Banbury Sheets, so named because they were printed in the town, were developed by Alan Turing in 1940 to help break Nazi messages. Codebreakers punched holes to represent different ciphers and place them on top of each other on a light box to see which holes aligned.

Wing mirror damaged

BANBURY: A shirtless man kicked the wing mirror off a silver Ford Focus in West Street, Banbury, police said.

The man who attacked the car at 12.10am last Friday was white, in his early 40s, 5ft 6in and stocky. He wore black jeans, but no top. He was with two other men who spoke with Polish accents, both were white and in their late 30s.

Charity's birthday plea

BANBURY: Fundraisers from the British Heart Foundation are celebrating their 30th anniversary and looking for volunteers.

An event will be held to give information and recruit new help tomorrow, from 10am to 3pm at Barclays Bank, Bridge Street. There will be a tombola and Easter eggs.

Homes plan rejected

HOOK NORTON: An application to build 54 homes, including affordable housing, has been refused by Cherwell District Council.

The development would have occupied about 2.7 hectares of agricultural land east of Sibford Road, between Hook Norton Primary School and Redland Farm.

Odour and insects from nearby Redland Farm were cited as a key reason for refusal.

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Church stamps success on charity endeavours

Volunteers have been sorting stamps for Oxfam to sell for around a year

Hannah Somerville
hsomerville@nqo.com

A VAST collection of 58,000 stamps passed over to Oxfam for sale was just the beginning, according to donors.

Members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Bankside, Banbury, have been painstakingly gathering, cutting out and sorting stamps for about a year.

The haul was donated to Banbury Oxfam Bookshop last month and stamps have been flying off the shelves.

The project coordinator for the Church, Des Waddington, 60, first launched the project in Daventry five years ago. To date the original scheme has donated more than half a million stamps to Oxfam.

Mr Waddington said: "In Banbury we are still quite embryonic. We haven't really got stuck in yet."

The Banbury collection had a variety of sources, from avid collectors handing over albums to individuals passing on old Christmas card envelopes.

Church members then process the stamps, cropping excess paper from around used stamps to a width of a quarter of an inch. They are marked as UK or overseas, then packed into bags of 500 and given to Oxfam.

Mr Waddington added: "It's arduous and labour-intensive but a lot of people do it as a family, or in front of the TV."

One item of particular interest was a small book of stamps found by Mr Waddington that appeared to bear the face of Adolf Hitler. On closer inspection they turned out to be part of an advertising campaign for a book entitled *GB-SS* by famous military historian Len Deighton.

Lis Griffin, stamps coordinator at Banbury Oxfam Bookshop, said: "What a terrific amount of stamps the church handed over. We are very grateful. The quantity and the quality gets better with each donation."

Bishop Joseph Gedge, the leader of the Church in Banbury, said: "We are grateful for the continued opportunity to work with Oxfam to give help to the poor and needy.

"This type of voluntary work helps us to feel closer to the community in which we live, as we provide this simple yet meaningful service to others."

Oxfam's Lis Griffin and Bishop Joseph Gedge with some of the stamps

Final chance to register for run

TODAY is the last day to sign up to the OX5 Run in aid of Oxford Children's Hospital.

With more than 1,100 runners on the start line so far, online entries for the event, organised by our sister paper, the *Oxford Mail,* will close at 11.45pm.

Andy Lawson, of Didcot, will be among those ready to run at Blenheim Palace this Sunday. His son, Jon-Paul Lawson, was born with Down's syndrome and a heart condition that saw him undergo open heart surgery at eight months old.

Now that he is five and doing well, his dad said: "We have been in the children's ward I don't know how many times; they are always very sympathetic and let us stay with him.

"Doing the run feels like I'm giving something back to them and raising money to make sure they can continue the great care they give."

The vehicle technician and wife Nina knew their son would have Down's syndrome and a heart condition before his birth and said the staff helped the couple prepare.

Oxford Children's Hospital's Sarah Vaccari said: "It makes such a difference to this event to have parents and children from the hospital taking part.

"Online registration closes at a quarter to midnight, so we really hope Jon-Paul and his parents will inspire others to sign up. You can run or walk the five miles, but please do put your efforts into your sponsorship."

The run will be started by Oxford-born former Arsenal and England footballer Martin Keown and nine-year- old Magnus Cameron, a former patient of the children's hospital.

Runners can sign up at oxfordmail.co.uk/news/ox5run/register/

Man prepares to run marathon dressed in a morph suit

A POSTMAN wearing an orange morph suit will attempt to run 26 sweaty miles at the London Marathon.

Calvin Findlay, from Warwick Road, Banbury, pictured above, will take on the route on April 26 to raise money for the National Stroke Association.

The 32-year-old said he chose National Stroke Association because his uncle, Malcolm Findlay, suffered a stroke.

Mr Findlay, who works for the Royal Mail in Banbury, said he will don the morph suit because he wanted to challenge himself.

He said: "It is blurry because I can't wear my contacts so I am running half blind, but I am doing it to challenge myself.

"I am running for the Stroke Association and one reason is my uncle suffered a stroke.

"Now he is a lot better but it affected him emotionally, half of his body could not move but with all the help we got him through it."

The married dad said he ran the London Marathon in 2011 and 2012 wearing normal clothes, but recently wore the morph suit at the Silverstone half marathon.

According Mr Findlay, father to three-year-old daughter Hollie, it was a cold day, but the London Marathon will be a challenge.

He said: "I am a postman so I do a lot of walking and sometimes I will go out and do some running, the distance is about 10 to 15 miles and progressing.

"I have done a marathon before and it was all right but this time I am going for a record but wearing a morph suit is going to slow me down a bit."

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Cloudy2Clear service the Oxford, Banbury & Abingdon areas and James is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'

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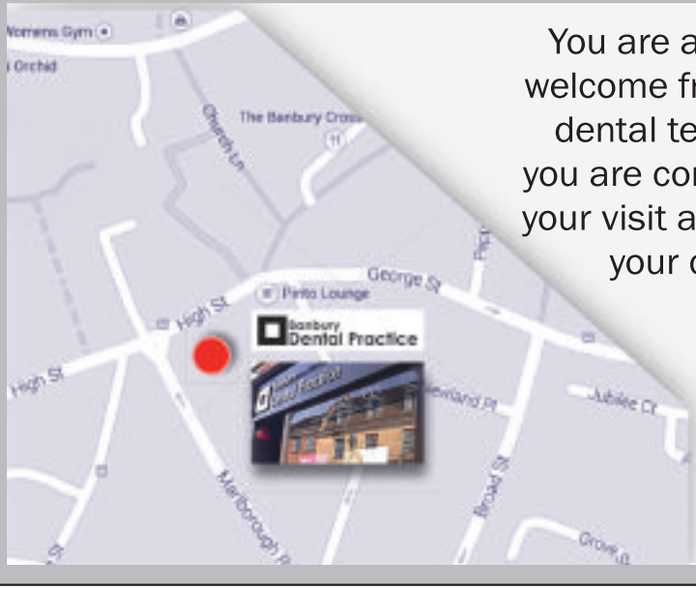

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New units approved by council

THE construction of ten new business and industrial units on a brownfield site near Wroxton has been approved by Cherwell District Council.

The site is part of Apollo Office Park, formerly the Wroxton Ironstone Works, which were set up in 1917. A special display at the new entrance will commemorate its heritage.

The plan for the 0.73-hectare site by Apollo Business Parks LLP , which will also include car parking and landscaping,

Teen pens song to help fund hospice

Hannah Somerville
hsomerville@nqo.com

A TEENAGE songstress has put pen to paper following the death of her aunt, creating a moving charity single in aid of Katharine House Hospice.

Fifteen-year-old Erin Lilley from Bloxham – stage name Erin Tiger Lilley – wrote *Save Me* after the passing of her aunt Karen Homans due to cancer last November.

She had visited Katharine House in Adderbury during her aunt's one-day stay there and said: "It's a wonderful place full of amazing and dedicated people. I thought I would say thank you the only way I know how.

"Karen was very supportive of me and a massive part of my life. I was really upset when she passed away. I had promised her I would do something to raise money for charity."

Erin first began playing piano at the age of seven and attends the Birmingham Ormiston Academy, which specialises in performing arts. She has also gained live performing experience, playing at Bloxfest, Banbury Folk Festival, Bo Peep Cider Festival in Adderbury and the Festival in the Forest in the Forest of Dean.

She said: "I still get stage fright. I feel if you don't have nerves, it means you don't care."

Her musical family includes mum Sarah, 49, who also plays piano, dad Chris, 52, a software engineer proficient in drums and didgeridoo, and older brother Max, 18, who plays bass, guitar and drums.

The inspiration for *Save Me* came when Erin and her mother were watching BBC drama *Our Girl*, about a young woman who joins the British Army and forms a compassionate relationship with an 11-year-old Afghan girl. The lyrics initially appear to be a love song, but actually refer to a war-torn country.

Erin was first scouted by recording studio 14 Records in Leamington Spa aged 12 during a studio visit with the Banbury-based Unison Rock Academy choir. Since then she has visited the studio regularly and written and recorded an EP of original songs.

Erin Lilley, 15, already has considerable performing experience

Of the new track, she said: "Originally we came up with the idea of selling a few CDs at gigs. But I played it to Gemma Waddell at 14 Records and she said she really liked the song."

Ms Waddell said: "We were only too happy to help with this project. Erin and her family are an important part of the 14 Records family. Karen was a wonderful person and any money we can raise for this great cause would be appreciated by the users of Katharine House services."

All proceeds from the itunes digital download will go towards the hospice fund. CDs will be available in the near future when her mother completes the artwork.

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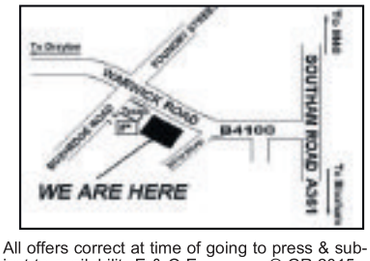

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Event promotes positive message for youngsters

Boxing tournament raises profile of sport and issues affecting young people

Ashley Banks, of Banbury Boxing Club, pictured in a previous bout, was among those who supported the event

Callum Keown
ckeown@nqo.com

A BOXING event was staged on Sunday to help promote the sport among young people

The first OX-BOX tournament featured competitors from seven of Oxfordshire's clubs and promoted the benefits of the sport.

It was organised at Spiceball Leisure Centre in Banbury by the charity Oxfordshire Youth – which supports community groups working with young people – in conjunction with Cherwell District Council, starts at 2pm on Sunday.

At the event, there were stalls with information on issues affecting young people, including mental health and homophobia.

Banbury Boxing Club coach Ben Malcher, who put on the event in his role as a support worker with Oxfordshire Youth, said: "Boxing gives young people something to focus on, a lot of dedication is required to train and perform well enough to win. It keeps you fit and encourages a positive attitude.

"For a lot of young people it gives them an escape. Lots of kids with depression and weight issues turn to boxing.

"We want to educate coaches about the issues facing young people and raise awareness of those issues to others."

Boxers from seven county clubs – Abingdon, Banbury, Berinsfield, Blackbird Leys, Oxford Boxing Academy, Spit 'n' Sawdust in Banbury and Windrush Valley – competed in 18 contests. They included England Junior Novice Lightweight Champion Ashley Banks, a pupil at Blessed George Napier School in Banbury.

The 16-year-old Bicester lad, who won the title in December, took up the sport five years ago and said it helped him focus on his education.

He said: "It helps to channel all your aggressions but it also teaches you to work hard and that if you do work hard at something, you will become good at it. It's like a game of chess at times; the smarter person always wins the fight."

Oxford rapper Chuckie, whose lyrics cover mental health issues, performed in the interval.

Time to Change, a charity that tackles the stigma around mental health, had a stall, as did Stonewall, an organisation that champions equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people.

Players' cast is ready to take to the Cage

BANBURY: Auditions are closed and the cast has been announced for the Banbury Cross Players' new production of *The Canary Cage* by Diana Raffle.

The plot follows three women, played by Helen Williams, Tina Williams and Marilyn Fairbairn, who are locked in a cellar and joined by fourth character played by Dave Robinson.

The Canary Cage will be entered by the players into the 2015 Lighthorne Drama Festival, Warwickshire, on Saturday, June 6. The festival box office opens on Friday, May 1. Tickets cost £12 including food and can be booked by calling 01926 651239 or emailing lighthornefestival@gmail.com

High Sheriff tradition

OXON: The new High Sheriff for Oxfordshire has been officially "pricked" by the Queen.

At a Privy Council meeting at Buckingham Palace last Thursday, Her Majesty used a bodkin to "prick" Tom Birch Reynardson, as part of Royal tradition, after reading his name off the High Sheriffs Roll 2015. He will replace Bill Roycroft.

Mr Reynardson will be officially sworn in on April 14.

Hula walk for hospice

BANBURY: Hula skirts and flower garlands will adorn fundraisers in a Hawaiian-themed Midnight Walk in aid of Katharine House Hospice, Adderbury.

The annual 10-mile walk, this year on July 4, from Banbury Cricket Club, Bodicote, is open to anyone over 12. Entry is £15. Visit khh.org.uk/how-you-can-help-us/fundraising/midnight-walk/

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Easter holiday fun

CHERWELL: Places are running out for the district council's annual Easter Holiday Hubs.

Sessions will be held at North Oxfordshire Academy, Banbury; Cooper School, Bicester; and The Warriner School, Bloxham throughout the two-week Easter break.

Daily arts and crafts will be on offer as well as games and daily sport.

Full sessions from 8.45am to 5pm cost £16.95 or £12.45 for shorter day sessions until 3pm.

For more information or to book call 01295 221803 or visit cherwell.gov.uk/holidayactivities.

Supporters' tree gift

MIDDLETON CHENEY: Lord Heseltine welcomed the gift of a tree from the Middleton Cheney Library Supporters' group earlier this month.

The politician visited Middleton Cheney Library to talk about an arboretum he has developed at his home in Thenford, Northamptonshire, with more than 3,000 trees and shrubs.

The supporters' group presented Lord Heseltine with a 10ft English Oak to add to his project.

He said: "It will make a good addition to my collection."

Jobs fair to return

BANBURY: Jobseekers turned out in force to a free job fair at Banbury Town Hall. A record 268 people attended the fair, organised by Cherwell District Council, over a four-hour period on Friday, March 13.

The next event will be held at John Paul II Centre, Causeway, Bicester, on Wednesday, April 29, from 10.30am to 2.30pm. All are welcome.

Sophie Wilkin, 13, and Alfred Taylor, 12, from Chenderit School, interview Dave Earle, who runs the Spit 'n' Sawdust gym in Banbury and carried the Olympic Torch in 2012, as part of the BBC News Report project Picture: Simon Williams

Pupils grill candidates as classroom becomes newsroom

PUPILS gave election candidates a grilling as part of the BBC's News School Report initiative.

The ninth annual event saw youngsters turn their classrooms into newsrooms last Thursday and become journalists for the day.

At Chenderit School in Middleton Cheney, Year 8 pupils interviewed Lucy Mills, the Labour parliamentary candidate for South Northamptonshire, Ian Middleton, Green candidate for Kidlington South, and UKIP candidates Tim Wilson and Dickie Bird. They also met Banbury boxer Dave Earle, who carried the Olympic Torch in 2012.

Year Eight pupil Cameron, 12, said: "It's amazing how my friends managed to get the interviews into a one-minute clip."

Overall 180 students were involved in researching, interviewing, filming, editing and presenting findings.

CLASSIFIED 01865 420420

Pregnancy rate among teens is on the decrease

Extra school nurses cited as a factor as levels fall to their lowest in over a decade

David Millward
dmillward@nqo.com

TEENAGE pregnancy rates in the county are at their lowest level in over a decade.

Latest figures reveal there were 147 fewer pregnancies among under 18s in Oxfordshire than there were more than 10 years ago.

Experts say the addition of school nurses, better sexual health services and a booming economy are among the reasons.

Councillor Melinda Tilley, Oxfordshire's cabinet member for children, education and families, said: "We have been putting in an awful lot of work with schools and youth places to try to stop teenage conception and we are seeing the results now."

The new figures are in contrast to the mid-2000s when teen pregnancies were on the increase.

Experts in 2007 blamed Oxfordshire's slow reaction to the problem for causing an increase of almost nine per cent in seven years. In 2012, the latest figures recently released by the Office for National Statistics, there were 234 pregnancies among under-18s in the county.

Jessica McCullough, 18, with her 18-month-old son Harley

The rate per 1,000 women under 18 has dropped from 36.4 pregnancies in 2002 to 20.7 in 2012.

Jessica McCullough from Didcot had just left school with 12 GCSEs when she discovered she was pregnant. The news was a shock for the 16-year-old who was on the pill at the time.

Now 18, she works in a fashion store one day a week and studies accountancy at Abingdon & Witney College while her mum and nan look after 18-month-old son Harley.

Since September last year 35 trained health nurses have been working across the county's secondary schools. They can administer emergency contraception and give advice on sex, relationships and sexual health.

Hilary Hibbert-Biles, Oxfordshire cabinet member for public health, said: "We've doubled the number of school nurses and put nurses in secondary schools full-time."

Oxford has the highest rate at 26.4 while Vale of White Horse has the lowest at 13.6 per 1,000 women under 18, followed by South Oxfordshire at 16.1, then Cherwell at 24 and West at 23.

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Cinderella dazzles senses with sumptuous film style

CINDERELLA
(U, 113 mins)

SLAVISHLY adapted from Disney's classic 1950 animated musical, Kenneth Branagh's live-action version of the fairytale romance doesn't skimp on the period detail.

Sandy Powell's luxurious costumes, Dante Ferretti's opulent set designs and Patrick Doyle's sweeping orchestral score conjure a magical world of unerring love in which even we gasp at the splendour of the grand ball where the prince must choose his wife.

While this *Cinderella* dazzles the senses, screenwriter Chris Weitz is shackled to memories of the hand-drawn film and he has almost no room for flourishes of originality.

The plot arc is predetermined, the ugly stepsisters don't hack off their heels or toes to squeeze into a misplaced glass slipper, and Helena Bonham Carter's fairy godmother isn't quite as eccentric as she or we would like as she engineers the film's best set-piece with a flick of her wand.

"I don't go transforming pumpkins for just anyone," she chirps.

No, the special effects wizards do and they accomplish the pivotal sequence with aplomb.

Before all of the jiggery-pokery with a pumpkin, four mice and a goose, Ella (Lily James) is consigned to the kitchen by her vindictive stepmother Lady Tremaine (Cate Blanchett) and stepsisters, Anastasia (Holliday Grainger) and Drizella (Sophie McShera).

Emboldened by the dying words of her mother (Hayley Atwell) – "Have courage and be kind" – Ella tries to rise above the bullying.

When the name-calling becomes too frightful, she escapes on horseback and catches the eye of the dashing Prince (Richard Madden), who must pick a bride at the behest of the dying King (Derek Jacobi).

So the Prince throws a lavish ball where Ella makes her grand entrance then disappears as the clock chimes midnight, leaving behind footwear that would surely pose a health and safety risk in any other film. "Find that girl – the forgetful one who loses her shoes," decrees the captain of the royal guard (Nonzo Anosie).

Cinderella will enchant a generation of girls, who dream of donning the tiara of a Disney princess.

James and Madden are an attractive screen pairing, while Blanchett draws inspiration from Joan Crawford to cast a formidable shadow from beneath the brim of her extravagant hats.

"I do love a happy ending, don't you?" gushes one of the characters.

Branagh's film certainly does, without a hint of irony.

The main feature is preceded by the animated short *Frozen Fever*, which continues the adventures of sisters Anna (voiced by Kristen Bell) and Elsa (Idina Menzel) as they prepare for a birthday celebration.

Loveable snowman Olaf (Josh Gad) and Kristoff (Jonathan Groff) also return and the script includes a cute reference to the blockbusting film when ice queen Elsa sneezes and chirrups, "A cold never bothered me anyway!"

A generation of men, who take to their beds at the first sniffle, would disagree.

Cinderella, played in the live-action version by Lily James, has all the usual trappings of the traditional fairytale, including a fabulous golden coach

Helena Bonham Carter helps out as the Fairy Godmother, with her magic wand

CakeWhat's on

Music

FRIDAY
Mill Arts Centre, Banbury: Jero Ferec, a UK-based Flamenco guitarist, performs with guest musicians and dancers. £15. 01295 279002.

SATURDAY
St Peter and Paul Church, Deddington: Warriner Choral Society will perform Bach's *St John Passion*, supported by the Akeman Chamber Orchestra on period instruments. The concert is well timed for the Eastertide, as it is a work with music of great drama and power. 8pm. Tickets: adults £12, children 16 and under free, from Hamptons in Deddington or 01295 367441.

Brasenose Arms, Cropredy: Sean Taylor plays Americana-influenced indie-folk. 9pm. Free.
Mill Arts Centre, Banbury: *Into the Shadows*, Shadows tribute act. 8pm. £16. 01295 279002.

Events

SATURDAY
Bicester & Kidlington Ramblers: Waddesdon, lay-by east of village, SP748168, Waddesdon. A leisurely 8.5 miles circular walk of Waddesdon Estate and the Winchendons. Picnic lunch. Call regarding dogs. Margaret Barker 01869 600434. 10am.

SUNDAY
The Nightingale, Nightingale Place, Langford. Race night and supper. Proceeds to the Hummingbird Centre Cancer Support and Rotary causes. Doors open at 7pm, first race at 7.30pm. £12. 01869 243641.

TUESDAY
National Herb Centre, Warmington: Build a super den in the woods at centre and take part in pond dipping, bug hunts and mini-beast roadshow. 11.30am-12.30pm. £3. naturalworldexperience.com/Events.html

Dance

TUESDAY
OYAP Trust, Courtyard Youth Arts Centre, Bicester. Illusion Youth Dance Company. Be part of a street and contemporary dance company. 5:30pm. £7. 01869 602560.
St Edburg's Church Hall, Old Place Yard, Bicester. Bicester Concert Band welcomes players Grade 4 standard and above. Rehearsals 7.45pm to 9.45pm.

Film

TUESDAY
Mill Arts Centre, Banbury: *In Secret* (R). A tale of obsessive love, adultery and revenge in 1860s Paris. £6. 01295 279002.

CakeSport

banburycake.co.uk/sport

OUT OF LUCK: Banbury United's Kynan Isaac (left) went close in the goalless draw at Biggleswade

Battle is on for survival

Puritans face big challenge

BANBURY United secured a draw with a battling display at their fellow Premier Division strugglers.

However, a point still leaves the Puritans 11 points from safety with eight games left.

Banbury started the stronger but could not make their pressure tell and on 11 minutes Tom Ryan's goalline clearance from Biggleswade's Ollie Thorne prevented the hosts going ahead.

Six minutes later, Leigh Bedwell made a double point-blank save and soon after smothered a shot from Lee Allinson.

Three minutes into the second half, Hicham Abdellah shot wide as Banbury came back into the contest.

Five minutes from time, Darius Browne's shot from 12 yards was tipped around a post, but they couldn't find a winner.

Biggleswade Tn	**0**
Banbury Utd	**0**

Banbury Utd: Bedwell, Cray, Martin, Fishwick, Tappin, Ryan, Green (Jacob Walcott 81), Isaac, Howards (Browne 76), Lewars (Talabi 56), Abedellah. Subs not used: Weston, Daffern.
Attendance: 154.

LATEST TABLE

SOUTHERN LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

Corby Tn	37	24	6	7	72	38	78
Poole Tn	34	24	5	5	67	21	77
Truro City	38	23	4	11	71	53	73
Weymouth	38	22	5	11	66	58	71
St Neots Tn	38	18	12	8	70	50	66
Hungerford Tn	38	18	11	9	53	31	65
Redditch Utd	38	18	10	10	65	37	64
Cirencester Tn	38	18	9	11	70	48	63
Hitchin Tn	39	16	9	14	62	58	57
Chesham Utd	37	14	12	11	68	55	54
Paulton Rov	37	15	9	13	59	54	54
Bideford	38	16	6	16	63	76	54
Chippenham Tn	38	14	10	14	48	49	52
Dunstable Tn	39	15	6	18	62	68	51
Cambridge City	37	11	13	13	58	54	46
Slough Tn	36	12	10	14	54	67	46
Dorchester Tn	38	11	6	21	53	65	39
Histon	37	10	8	19	38	60	38
Frome Tn	39	10	8	21	47	74	38
Biggleswade Tn	37	8	11	18	49	66	35
Arlesey Tn	37	9	4	24	37	72	31
Banbury Utd	**36**	**5**	**9**	**22**	**39**	**81**	**24**
*Burnham	38	5	7	26	38	74	19

* pts deducted, Hereford Utd record expunged

STARS with Claire Petulengro

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ARIES Mar 21-Apr 19

You don't have to know all the answers to get what you want. You just have to be receptive to change. Be open to suggestions and to changing your approach to working relationships. This is a great week to renegotiate existing contracts which you have been unhappy with for some time now. Take control. Ring now so I can help you shape and enjoy life more.

0906 585 4360

TAURUS Apr 20-May 20

Money you were expecting may be late in coming. The good side to this news is that those who are involved will be responsive to alternative options and plans and new friendships and business ideas. You're building the base this week which will help you make the rest of the year a secure one. Remember who you are and what you want. Ring so I can help you be the best you can be.

0906 585 4361

GEMINI May 21-Jun 20

What you thought to be fact could turn out to be fiction. You've had to do a lot of growing up so far this year and you've come out of it a better person. Trust your instincts. You think you don't know exactly what you want, but I think you're wrong Gemini. You do know, you've just been frightened to dream big. Ring my starline now to hear how unexpected visitors are a good omen.

0906 585 4362

CANCER Jun 21-Jul 22

You now know that you cannot change a situation, but you can change the way you deal with it Cancer. The sooner you do it, the sooner it will no longer be your problem. You'll have to deal with some strong characters but remember to talk, not shout, and you'll keep focused on what and who is really important to you. Ring me right now so I can give you clarity and grace.

0906 585 4363

LEO Jul 23-Aug 22

When you blame others you give up the power to control your life. Leave others to get on with what they're doing and write your life list. It's more obtainable than you thought possible Leo. I know you can do it and by the end of this week several other faces will have confirmed the faith I have in you also. Ring my starline right now so we can take the first step toward your future together.

0906 585 4364

VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

Why did you lose faith in yourself when others had it in abundance? I don't think you actually believed them did you Virgo? You will when you see what crescendo Friday's events bring to life. You're about to learn that drawing attention to yourself doesn't have to be for negative reasons but can actually be productive. Ring now for a peak at what's to unravel in your future.

0906 585 4365

LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

Are you really doing things your way? Because to do them in anyone else's style other than your own can only see you with results which are not meant for your life. Be you and happiness will follow. A new attraction has made you shy. Remember that you're worthy of loving and being loved. Hold your head up high Libra. Ring to hear why it's worth following up last week's work contacts.

0906 585 4366

SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

Please stop pretending you want other's dreams and start admitting what your own are. You've been living a lie for several weeks now because you didn't trust your own judgment. Doing so this week brings proposals. Don't forget to act on the promises you made at the beginning of the month. Your word was your bond as far as a close one is concerned. Ring so I can tell you about the travel coming up.

0906 585 4367

SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 21

You have so much to focus on at the moment that you'd be wise to use Monday to plan what needs to be done to ensure you still keep afloat and sane. Truth is Sagittarius, you can do what's required standing on your head and in actually fact you're just not aiming high enough! Think big, you have support in higher places than you thought my friend. Ring now to enjoy this month to the full.

0906 585 4368

CAPRICORN Dec 22-Jan 19

I actually don't think you've been putting yourself first or looking after yourself as you should Capricorn. Try to think what makes you happy rather than just doing what others expect from you. You'll soon find yourself smiling more if you do. Last minute invites on Sunday can spark an important new relationship in your life. Phone me now. We have so much more to talk about.

0906 585 4369

AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

Your ruling planet Saturn has made you your own worst task master recently and you may not know who to turn to for help with your load. By Tuesday you'll have several offers, you just have to learn to listen when others talk and offer support. Take those blinkers off Aquarius, the past is behind you and life really is for living now. Ring now so I can aid you on your journey to happiness.

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PISCES Feb 19-Mar 20

Stop pretending to be someone you're not in your career, as it's the real you who will win the admirers and supporters needed to take things to the top. You know who you can trust and who you can't and you would be best to stick to the judgements you've made or you could miss out on closing a deal or plan by Friday. Ring to hear why it's worth getting in touch with friends from the past.

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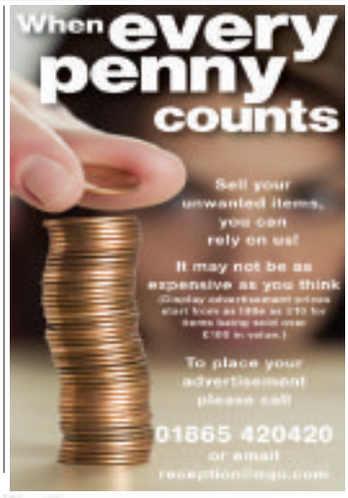

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9 RECRUITMENT

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The Company runs a 24 hour operation at the present time and this vacancy is for 36 hour Week Shift (3x12 hour shift). However, there may be a need to vary the shift pattern to meet changing production needs from time to time.

Ideally you will be:

A competent Electrician with a formal qualification and experience.

Experienced in working with ac/dc control systems & panels with the skill of fault finding on drive systems.

Having a basic know-how in Ethernet-Communication with process-controllers, field-bus-systems (e.g. Interbus), modern instruments and control systems.

Experienced working in an industrial environment as an Electrical/ Electronic/Mechanical maintenance engineer on industrial machinery and troubleshooting.

Additional desirable attributes would be:

IT literate including hardware, software and troubleshooting.

Having at least 2 years practical experience including: fault finding, knowledge of DC/AC motors, converters, encoders, panel and motor wiring.

Able to demonstrate an excellent electrical knowledge with a basic knowledge in lighting systems plus mechanical knowledge and experience and able to carry out preventive maintenance

There will be occasions where some mechanical engineering and the need to 'get your hands dirty' will be required.
A reasonable level of fitness is required to fulfil the duties of this position.

Benefits Include
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If you are interested in becoming a key player in this facility please send your CV and a covering letter to: Duncan Ellam, Printing Services Manager, Newsquest Oxford & Wilts, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0EJ

Or email duncan.ellam@newsquest.co.uk

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- Full UK driving license

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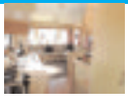

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Urban runabout has dash of class

By David Duffy
david.duffy@nqo.com

THE continuing success of the Oxford-built Mini has proved conclusively that small cars can not only be economical and cost-efficient but also a lot of fun.

Not only fun, but also pulsing with plenty of personality and not a little elegance.

Priced from £8,245, the Peugeot 108 city car takes all the merits of an urban runabout and adds a real dash of class.

Available in three and five-door body styles, with a soft-top version, the strikingly-styled hatchback has space for up to four adults.

Power on the test car came from a zippy, three-cylinder, 1.2-litre petrol engine and most noticeable inside is the improvement in seat comfort which makes long-distance travelling much more pleasurable.

The driver's seat is now height-adjustable on all but the entry-level trim, and on three-door models both front seats gain a memory function which means they will always return to the same position when tilted forward.

Peugeot has pumped up the equipment level on the 108, and on all but the entry-level model the car comes with a multi-function steering wheel. If reverse gear is engaged, the reversing camera displays a colour image on the touch-screen.

Push-button starting, a speed limiter and automatic lighting make life a little easier and safety systems range from anti-lock brakes and electronic stability programme to six airbags.

Air conditioning is standard on three out of the four trim levels and cabin storage has been given a boost with the passenger-side glovebox getting a lid and a horizontal cut-out section designed to take a one-litre drinks bottle.

The Peugeot 108 hatchback is priced from £8,245 and comes in three- and five-door bodystyles

The dashboard is dominated by a seven-inch touch-screen that allows control of the radio, iPod input and Bluetooth telephone link.

Like its Czech-built sister cars, the Citroën C1 and Toyota Aygo, the 108 is a compact four-seater with a surprise at the rear.

The little car's boot, with its slightly lower loading sill, might not look that spacious at first glance, but start loading and the weekly supermarket shop disappears inside. The rear bench seat splits 50:50 and each side can be folded.

Auto facts

Model: Peugeot 108 Allure 1.2
Price: £11,095
Insurance group: 11E
Fuel consumption (Combined): 65.7mpg
Length: 347.5cm/136.8in
Width: 188.4cm/74.2in
Luggage capacity: 6.9 cu ft
Fuel tank capacity: 7.7 gallons/35 litres
CO2 emissions: 99g/km
Warranty: Three yrs/100,000m

In brief

- WARNERS Group Publications, the publisher of Britain's best-selling motorhome magazine, MMM, is launching a new guide to help buyers make the right decision when choosing a motorhome. Buying Your First Motorhome (£4.99) is packed with all the information and advice first-time motorhome buyers need to be sure they make the right decision. Order from the publishers for the discounted price of £3.99 by visiting your-first-motorhome.co.uk or by calling 01778 392010. It also available as an e-book through pocketmags.com for £4.99.
- **THE mobile phone you use could be the deciding factor in which car you choose to own. Younger drivers are often more influenced by phone technology than car design, according to industry experts. Many car makers are already working with Apple and Google to integrate mobile technology into cars. This means cars in the near future will have smartphones and tablets nd will be set up to access the internet, music, sat-nav and apps.**

Worldofmotoring

Over-50s increasingly still on track

THE over-50s are playing an increasingly active role when it comes to motoring in the UK, owning more cars and spending more than ever on keeping on the road, says a new report.

The research carried out on behalf of Saga Motor Insurance shows that over-50s now account for almost half of all spending on motor transport and that this spend is increasing faster than that of people under 50.

The over 50s spend on average £57 a week on motor transport, this has grown some 48 per cent since 2000, whereas spending by the under-50s has grown just 32 per cent over the same period. This growth in spending is partially down to us living healthier and more active lives for longer. There has been a surge in car ownership among the over-75s, 56 per cent of over-75s own a car today, compared to 37 per cent in 2000.

On average the over-50s drive 7,270 miles a year and spend £23 a week on fuel. Whilst many over-50s are still in work, the reason for the majority of car journeys they make are for essential every day activities such as shopping and to carry out personal business.

As well as being essential for keeping the over-50s economically active, cars also play a key role in keeping them socially active as well. The third most common reason for the over-60s to get behind the wheel is to visit friends and the biggest growing reason for travel for the over 50s is to go on a break.

Further research of this age group has shown just how vital having a car is to them and the economy. The over-50s say that their spending on food and other shopping, entertainment and eating out, would decrease dramatically if they were unable to drive. A quarter would do their food shopping less frequently and four in ten would reduce the number of trips they made for other shopping such as clothes.

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*The MINI Countryman is available from £99 Advance Payment under the Motability Contract Hire Scheme. Model featured is the MINI Cooper Countryman. All prices are correct at time of going to print for orders placed and accepted between 1 January and 31 March 2015. The facilities offered are for the hire (bailment) of goods. The Motability Contract Hire Scheme is administered by Motability Operations Limited (Registered Company No. 1373876), City Gate House, 22 Southwark Bridge Road, London SE1 9HB. To qualify you must be in receipt of the Higher Rate Mobility Component of the Disability Living Allowance, the Enhanced Rate of the Mobility Component of Personal Independence Payment (PIP), the War Pensioners' Mobility Supplement (WPMS) or the Armed Forces Independence Payment (AFIP), which will be taken in lieu of the four weekly rental. Terms and conditions apply and are available on request.

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2007 07	**FORD FIESTA 1.4 STYLE.** 5 Door. Blue. 2 owners from new. Local car. PAS. Radio/CD. Alloys. Remote central locking. Electric windows. Etc. Nice condition throughout. Sold with a new MOT a full service and a new cambelt. HPI Clear	£2,995
2004 04	**TOYOTA YARIS T-SPRIT AUTOMATIC.** Metallic Dark Blue. 3 Door. Full service history, with approximately only 55000 miles. Local car. AUTOMATIC. Electric windows.PAS. Central locking. Radio/CD. Alloys. Aircon. Superb small hatchback. Sold with a new MOT, a full service and a new cambelt. HPI Clear	£2,695
2001 51	**VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 AUTOMATIC.** 5 door. Silver. Local car. Central locking. Electric windows. PAS. Radio/CD. Very tidy for it's year. Sold with a new MOT a full service and a new cambelt. HPI Clear	£1,550
2004 04	**FIAT PANDA 1.2 ELEGANZA.** 5 doors. Blue. Great little car. Central locking. Electric windows. Electric door mirrors. Radio/CD. Very roomy and economical small hatchback. Sold with a new MOT a full service and a new cambelt. HPI Clear	£1,450
2001 51	**NISSAN MICRA 1.0 VIBE. 5 doors.** Metallic Blue. PAS. Radio/CD. Local car. Very tidy throughout. Sold with a new MOT a full service and a new cambelt. HPI Clear	£1,050
1997 P	**TOYOTA CELICA 1.8 ST COUPE**, Turquoise Blue, Exceptional Condition, PAS, Alloys, Central Locking, Electric Windows, Sun Roof, Local Car, HPI Clear	£995
1995 N	**NISSAN MICRA 1.3 AUTOMATIC.** Green. MOT until June 2015. Very noisy gearbox but works OK.	£525
2003 03	**VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.8 PETROL ELEGANCE. 7 SEATER.** Silver.	Arriving Weekend

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MAY

BIG BAND BREAK - *Sunday 3rd May 2015- £99 (1 Night HB)*
THE MYSTERY WEEKEND SPECIAL - *Saturday 16th May 2015 - £99 (1 Night HB)*
CARDIFF & GLOUCESTER QUAYS - *Saturday 23rd May 2015 - £99 (1 Night HB)*
LIVERPOOL, JEWEL OF THE MERSEY - *Friday 29th May 2015 - £169 (2 Nights HB)*

JUNE

WESTON-SUPER-MARE - *Saturday 13th June 2015- £299 (4 Nights HB)*
WEYMOUTH & THE DORSET COAST (ADULTS ONLY) - *Monday 15th June 2015 - £299 (4 Nights HB)*
SCARBOROUGH & NORTH YORKSHIRE COAST - *Sunday 21st June 2015- £399 (6 Nights HB)*
BOGNOR REGIS, WEST SUSSEX DELIGHT - *Wednesday 24th June 2015 - £249 (3 Nights HB)*
LLANDUDNO & THE GREAT LITTLE TRAINS OF WALES - *Sunday 28th June 2015 - £399 (6 Nights HB)*

JULY

EXMOUTH & DEVON DELIGHT - *Sunday 5th July 2015 - £399 (6 Nights HB)*
MYSTERY LONG WEEKEND SPECIAL - *Saturday 11th July 215 - £149 (2 Nights HB)*
WARNERS HOLME LACY HISTORIC HOTEL (ADULTS ONLY) - *Monday 20th July 2015 - £399 (4 Nights HB)*
FORT WILLIAM, SCOTLAND - *Sunday 26th July 2015- £399 (6 Nights HB)*
WARNERS BEMBRIDGE COAST HOTEL, ISLE OF WIGHT (ADULTS ONLY) - *Monday 27th July 2015 - £379 (4 Nights HB)*

AUG

IRISH HOUSE PARTY, COUNTY WEXFORD, SOUTHERN IRELAND - *Monday 3rd August 2015 - £399 (4 Nights HB)*
DUNOON & ARGYLL, SCOTLAND - *Monday 10th August 2015- £299 (4 Nights HB)*
FALMOUTH, THE CORNISH RIVIERA - *Saturday 15th August 2015- £449 (7 Nights HB)*
LAKE DISTRICT – LAKES, TRAINS & DALES - *Monday 24th August 2015- £349 (4 Nights HB)*
LIVERPOOL, JEWEL OF THE MERSEY - *Friday 28th August 2015 -£169 (2 Nights HB)*
WARNERS NIDD HALL HISTORIC HOTEL (ADULTS ONLY) - *Monday 31st August 2015 - £399 (4 Nights HB)*

SEPT

MYSTERY WEEKEND SPECIAL - *Saturday 5th September 2015 - £99 (1 Night HB)*
WEYMOUTH & DORSET COAST (ADULTS ONLY) - *Monday 7th September 2015- £299 (4 Nights HB)*
EASTBOURNE & SOUTH COAST - *Sunday 13th September 2015 - £399 (6 Nights HB)*
GREAT YARMOUTH, NORFOLK BROADS – INC. BOATS & TRAINS OF NORFOLK - *Sunday 20th September 2015- £399 (6 Nights HB)*
WARNERS BEMBRIDGE COAST HOTEL, ISLE OF WIGHT (ADULTS ONLY) - *Monday 28th September 2015- £379 (4 Nights HB)*

OCT

BLACKPOOL ILLUMINATIONS - *Friday 2nd October 2015 - £189 (2 Nights HB)*
NEWQUAY, CORNWALL – INC. EDEN PROJECT & LOST GARDENS OF HELIGAN - *Sunday 4th October 2015 – £349 (5 Nights HB)*
THE SCOTTISH BORDERS, INC. EDINBURGH -*Sunday 18th October 2015 - £299 (4 Nights HB)*
BLACKPOOL ILLUMINATIONS - *Monday 26th October 2015- £299 (4 Nights HB)*

KEY: **BB** = BED & BREAKFAST **HB** = DINNER, BED & BREAKFAST

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